

CLAIMS

1. An illuminable sign (1) comprising a plate (2) of a light-transmitting material, at least one three-dimensional body, such as a convex strip (7), also of a light-transmitting material, in the form of a symbol, lettering, decoration or the like, and positioned on or over a surface of the plate (2), and a light source (4), characterised in that the light source (4) is positioned along at least part of an edge (3) of the plate (2), such that, when the light source (4) is switched on, light from the source (4) is coupled into the plate (2).
2. Illuminable sign (1) according to claim 1, wherein the plate (2) or at least those parts of the plate (2) on or over which the at least one three-dimensional body (7) is positioned, is made of a transparent material.
3. Illuminable sign (1) according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the plate (2) is provided with at least one groove (6) and/or recess in the form of at least part of a figure, a sign, a decoration or the like and wherein the at least one three-dimensional body (7) is positioned in at least part of this groove (6) and/or recess or in register therewith.
4. Illuminable sign (1) according to claim 3, wherein the at least one groove (6) and/or recess is provided in the front surface of the plate (2).
5. Illuminable sign (1) according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the depth of the at least one groove (6) or recess varies along the figure, sign, decoration of the like.
6. Illuminable sign (1) according to claim 5, wherein the depth of the at least one groove (6) or recess increases in a direction away from the light source (4).
7. Illuminable sign (1) according any one of the claims 3-6, wherein the width of at least one the groove (6) is in excess of 3 mm, preferably in excess of 4 mm.
8. Illuminable sign (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, which comprises at least two parallel or substantially parallel plates (2) of a light-transmitting material.

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9. Illuminable sign (1) according to claim 8, wherein at least two of the plates (2) are provided with at least one three-dimensional body, such as a convex strip (7), also of a light-transmitting material, in the form of a figure, a sign, a decoration of the like.

10. Illuminable sign (1) according to claim 8 or 9, wherein a further plate (20; 21) is provided between the at least two plates (2).

11. Illuminable sign (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein an additional plate (10) of a transparent material is provided over the front surface of the plate (2).

12. Illuminable sign (1) according to claim 11, wherein at least the edge of the additional plate (10) nearest the light source (4) is optically separated from the said light source (4) so as to prevent light from the light source (4) from coupling directly into the additional plate (10).

13. Illuminable sign (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, which comprises at least two light sources (4, 4') positioned along different, preferably opposite, edges of the plate (2).

14. Illuminable sign (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the light source (4) has a colour temperature in excess of 5000K, preferably in excess of 7000K.

15. Illuminable sign (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the said at least one three-dimensional body (7) is comprised of a paste, preferably a UV-hardened or self-hardened paste.